

**From:** S. Baker  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/24/02 9:19pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

----- Forwarded message -----

I will make my comments brief.

I have 13 years of experience in the software and hardware development industry. I have developed everything from chips, boards and computer systems, to device drivers and applications.

I believe the proposed settlement in the Microsoft Monopoly case is far too generous to a company that has a long history of illegal anticompetitive actions. The settlement, as proposed, will not be an effective deterrent to Microsoft's illegal practices, and will not prevent the company from continuing to stifle innovation in the computer software market by stamping out or buying out any company that manages to compete with it.

It is my further opinion that the anticompetitive actions of Microsoft has held the software industry back from where it could be today without them. Microsoft advertises that they are the great innovators, but close examination shows that nearly everything they bring to market has been developed first by another company. Without a strong remedy that will prevent further monopolistic actions, the computer software industry will fall further behind its potential. Since all industry sectors use this software, their productivity is directly impacted by this. This remedy will effect the entire nation, across all industry sectors, not just the software industry. The penalties for a weak response will be expensive to the entire country.

A stronger remedy than what has been proposed is needed.

Thank You,  
Stewart Baker  
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